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**CIA VIET NAM ROLE
CRITICISM UNFAIR,
SENATORS ASSERT**

WASHINGTON, Oct. 11 (AP)—After hearing Central Intelligence Agency director John A. McCone in secret, the chairman and two other members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee declared yesterday that criticism of the CIA's role in South Viet Nam was either "grossly exaggerated" or "totally without foundation."

The agency "has been unfairly criticized," said committee chairman J. W. Fulbright (Dem.), Arkansas. Senator Stuart Symington (Dem.), Missouri, agreed, and the committee's senior Republican, Senator Bourke B. Hickenlooper of Iowa, declared that there is "not a shred of reliable evidence" that the CIA has departed from its operating function.

Symington recommended that McCone's testimony be made public. Fulbright said he opposes such a course. No action was taken on the recommendation.

Senator Eugene J. McCarthy (Dem.), Minnesota, proposed in active position and the general were more than 15,000 spies member Senate committee be set up to investigate the CIA.

Ag 2
X Pns 2 J. W. Fulbright
X Ag 3-3-1
X Ag 4
X Pns 2 Bourke HICKENLOOPER
X Pns 2 Eugene J. McCARTHY